

Docket No. 278315US3X PCT



IAP4 Rec'd PCT/PTO 11 JAN 2006 T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Kenichi TAKAHIRO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/551,438

GAU:

FILED: September 29, 2005

EXAMINER:

FOR: RING-SHAPED METAL GASKET

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

*Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.  
Registration No. 40,440

Customer Number

22850

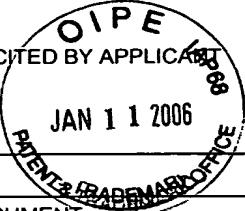
Tel. (703) 413-3000

Fax. (703) 413-2220

(OSMMN 05/03)

1:\EM\EMREL\277s-278s\278315US TR. LETTER.doc

08 JAN 13 AM 2:00

| Form PTO 1449<br>(Modified)   |    | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE                        |          | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>278315US3X PCT     | SERIAL NO.<br>10/551,438   |           |
|---|----|---|----------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT                                   |    |  |          | APPLICANT<br>Kenichi TAKAHIRO, et al. |  |           |
|   |    |   |          | FILING DATE<br>September 29, 2005     | GROUP  |           |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| EXAMINER INITIAL  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER   | DATE     | NAME                                  | CLASS  | SUB CLASS |
| AA  |    | 6,942,220   | 09/13/05 | TAKAHIRO et al.                       |  |           |
| AB  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AC  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AD  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AE  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AF  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AG  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AH  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AI  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AJ  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AK  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AL  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AM  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AN  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
|   |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER   | DATE     | COUNTRY                               | TRANSLATION<br>YES   | NO        |
| AO  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AP  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AQ  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AR  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AS  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AT  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AU  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| AV  |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |    |   |          |                                       |  |           |
|   | AW |   |          |                                       |  |           |
|   | AX |   |          |                                       |  |           |
|   | AY |   |          |                                       |  |           |
|   | AZ |   |          |                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached |           |
| Examiner  |    |   |          | Date Considered                       |  |           |

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Docket No.: 278315US3X PCT Serial No.: 10/551,438

Inventor: Kenichi TAKAHIRO, et al.

LIST OF RELATED CASES CITED BY  
APPLICANT UNDER 37 CFR 1.56

Filing Date: September 29, 2005

Group:

**LIST OF RELATED CASES**

| <u>Examiner Initial</u> | <u>Docket No.</u> | <u>Serial or Patent Number</u> | <u>Filing or Issue Date</u> | <u>Patent App. Publication No.</u> | <u>Inventor or Applicant</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                         | 247239US3         | 6,942,220                      | 09/13/05                    |                                    | TAKAHIRO et al.              |
|                         | 278315US3X        | 10/551,438<br>PCT*             | 09/29/05                    |                                    | TAKAHIRO et al.              |

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Present Application; listed for information

GJM/sch/gyy

I:\EM\EMREL\277s-278s\278315US LIST.DOC